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GUS-0209

Copy 3 of 6.

8 April 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director, Plans

SUBJECT : Pilot Protective System - GUSTO

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1. [REDACTED] requested that this explanatory note be forwarded to you. The subject of the pilot protective equipment for Project GUSTO was, as I understand, brought up in February in a conversation between yourself, Gen. Flickinger and Col. Burke.

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2. It was at that time Gen. Flickinger's intent to bring [REDACTED] into the program in order that [REDACTED] might undertake any necessary developmental studies. It is my understanding that this was agreed to by all concerned and shortly thereafter [REDACTED] and Col. Burke discussed the desirability of undertaking an initial four-month study by the Firewel Corp. with an anticipated expenditure of approximately \$10,000 per month. Col. Burke obtained your verbal approval for this effort.

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3. [REDACTED] has since been in discussion with personnel of Firewel Corp. and also Convair and Lockheed. We have since received a firm proposal from Firewel to undertake a four-month study at a total cost of \$53,495.04. A firm item in GUSTO Program Approval Revision No. 1, in the amount of \$55,000, has been set up in order to cover the Firewel study. The technical content of the Firewel proposal was satisfactory to [REDACTED]

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4. Since the subject matter of the attached Program Approval, GUS-0172, has been covered in Amendment No. 1 to GUSTO Program Approval, GUS-0206, request for approval of this single item can be withdrawn. In the negotiation of a contract with Firewel, two items appear to require attention specifically:

Agree
RUBIN

a. The contractual coverage should begin as of 1 March rather than the 1 February date requested in the Firewel letter of 26 March.

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b. The [] profit rate included in the Firewel cost estimate may be slightly excessive.

5. With your approval the contractual negotiations will include suitable resolutions of these two points.

/s/

EUGENE P. KIEFER
Special Assistant for Technical Analysis
DPD-DD/P

CONCUR:

/s/ Wm. Burke

Actg. Ch/DPD-DD/P

/s/ R. M. B., jr. - Subject to assurance that this is properly coordinated with investigations of air frame manufacturers, who have to design environment and escape provisions and who have their own ideas.

Deputy Director
(Plans)

RMBjr.

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